FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 242 *17 December 1981*

ARGENTINA

General Galtieri Designates New Ministers B 1
Air Force Chief Determines New Appointments B 1
Justicialists Ask Military To Turn Over Power B 2
CNEA Chairman on Region's Nuclear Programs B 3
Government States Concern Over Polish Situation B 4
Briefs: Cost of Living Increases; Oil, Gas Reserves B 4

BOLIVIA

Minister Hails Foreign Policy Achievements C 1
Landlocked Problem Discussed C 2
Commands Deny Reported Paraguayan Troop Invasion C 2
Exiled Political Leaders Petition To Return C 3
Court Denies Petition C 3
Report on COMIBOL, Church, Miners Negotiations C 4
Cochabamba Hunger Strike by Former Labor Leaders C 4
Details of Government Antidrug Law Outlined C 4
Commission Established To Study Gem Deposit C 5

BRAZIL

Government Reportedly Studying PRC Uranium Offer D 1
[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 10 Dec]
Figueiredo Congratulates Perez de Cuellar D 2
Changes UN Delegation [JORNAL DO BRASIL 13 Dec] D 2
Itamaraty Regrets Changes in Argentine Posts D 2
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 13 Dec]
Navy Ministry Reveals Activities in Antarctica D 3
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 10 Dec]
Further Navy Statement D 3
Admiral Cites Navy's Relative Advantages [O GLOBO 14 Dec] D 4
Neto To Head Planning 'Superministry' in 1982 D 4
Chamber of Deputies Approves 'Inelegibility Law' D 4
Popular Party Announces Incorporation Into PMDB D 4
Air Minister Undergoes Bypass Operation in U.S. D 5
Government Submits Electoral Law to Congress D 5
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 1 Dec]
Angra I Nuclear Powerplant Suffers Another Delay D 7
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 10 Dec]

ECUADOR

Official Announces Major Government Decisions G 1
Minister Says Oil Prices To Remain Unchanged G 1
New Operations Announced G 2

PARAGUAY

Ceremony Marks Reorganization of Armed Forces H 1

URUGUAY

Commander Warns Parties on 'Foreign Ideologies' K 1
COMASPO Talks With Parties K 1
Three Political Parties To Contest 1984 Elections K 1
Interior Minister on Number of Political Parties K 2
President Alvarez Addresses Farmers Meeting K 2
[EL DIA 9 Dec]
Official Reports $50-Million Fall in Reserves K 2

PANAMA

Secret Plot To Kill Area Leaders Reported N 1
Press Official Alleges Plan To Discredit Panama N 1
Venezuela's Carlos Andres Perez Comments on Region N 2
Nicaragua's Robelo Meets Latin American Leaders N 2
Government Minister, Radio Broadcasters Meet N 3
National Guard May Purchase Spanish Aircraft N 4

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

Ehrlich Comments on European Trip, Elections P 1
Managua Quotes Venceremos on Military Offensive P 3
Subversive Attacks, Unidentified Flights Reported P 3
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 15 Dec]
New Cleanup Operation Launched in Chalatenango P 4

GUATEMALA

Congress Urges End to Divisive Violence P 4
Unidentified Guerrillas Attack Police Station P 5

NICARAGUA

Foreign Minister D'Escoto Concludes Visit to USSR P 5
[cross-reference]
ECLN Calls for Creation of Democratic Coalition P 5
Rebels Reportedly Kill, Wound Sandinists P 5

GENERAL GALTIERI DESIGNATES NEW MINISTERS

PY170125 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2044 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (TELAM) -- Maj Gen Alfredo Oscar Saint Jean, current secretary general of the army, was designated today interior minister by Lt Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri, commander in chief of the army and president of the nation as of 22 December.

The official report released this afternoon at the army command indicates that Brig Gen Hector Norberto Iglesias, current under secretary general of the army, was designated secretary general of the presidency; and the following ministers were confirmed in their posts: Social Action Minister Carlos Lacoste and Labor Minister Julio Cesar Porcile, both military officers on active duty in their respective branches.

The text of the official report reads as follows:

The people are informed that today, 16 December 1981, Lt Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri, commander in chief of the army and recently designated president of the Argentine nation, confirmed in their posts the following ministers and secretaries of state:

Vice Adm Carlos Alberto Lacoste, social action minister; Brig Gen Julio Cesar Porcile, labor minister; Brig Gen Jose Miret, secretary of state for planning; Dr Julio Cesar Bancedo -- current under secretary of culture -- will be secretary of state for culture, an office which now is directly subordinate to the presidency of the nation.

He also designated Maj Gen Alfredo Oscar Saint Jean as interior minister and Brig Gen Hector Norberto Iglesias as secretary general of the presidency of the nation.

He also confirmed Rear Adm Roberto Benito Moya as chief of the military household.

AIR FORCE CHIEF DETERMINES NEW APPOINTMENTS

PY161930 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2030 GMT 27 Nov 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Nov (TELAM) -- It was reported this afternoon that the air force commander in chief has determined the postings of high-ranking officers. Appointments are as follows:

Chief of the Air Force General Staff	Maj Gen Juan Garcia
Chief of air force operations	Brig Gen Helmuth Conrado Weber
Commander of air force regions	Brig Gen Alberto Banos
Chief of training	Brig Gen Sigfrido Martin Plessl
Commander of air defense	Brig Gen Augusto Jorge Hugues
Director of the Armed Forces Scientific and Technical Investigations Center	Brig Gen Guillermo Hector Marotta
Deputy Chief of Joint Staff	Brig Gen Jose Maria Insua
Director of the military aviation school	Brig Gen Alfredo Ramon Berastegui

Chief of staff of the air defense headquarters	Brig Gen Teodoro Guillermo Waldner
Chief of staff of the air force operations headquarters	Brig Gen Hector Rene Roy
Air force attache to the United States	Brig Gen Ricardo Augusto Pena
Chief of the Cordoba Ordnance Area	Brig Gen Oscar Jose Julia
Chief of staff of training headquarters	Brig Gen Alberto Cristobal Simari
Chief of staff of air force regional headquarters	Brig Gen Hector Augusto Cocito
Chief of staff of ordnance headquarters	Brig Gen Jorge Benito Nisi
Director of the higher air force school	Brig Gen Roberto Starc
Chief of the 6th Air Brigade	Brig Gen Roberto Gernando Camblor
Chief of the Rio Cuarto ordnance area	Col Andres Francisco Alvarisqueta
Infrastructure director General	Col Rodolfo Francisco Arens
Chief of Section IV -- logistics, Air Force General Staff	Col Arcelio Oscar Gonzalez
Chief of Section IV of the Joint Staff	Col Carlos Roberto Francisco Cavandoli
Production director general of the ordnance headquarters	Col Cesar Augusto Carreras
Chief of the 1st Air Brigade	Col Enrique Ramon Valenzuela
Chief of Section III -- operations, Air Force General Staff	Col Carlos Alberto Jose de Blasis
Chief of the 7th Air Brigade	Col Vion Carlos Yocca
Chief of Section V -- air force interests, General Staff	Col Francisco Domingo Ubaldo Arnau
Chief of the 5th Air Brigade	Col Carlos Antonio Alloatti
Chief of the 9th Air Brigade	Col Luis Guillermo Castellano
Sanitation general adviser	Col Alfredo Margalef

JUSTICIALISTS ASK MILITARY TO TURN OVER POWER

PY161821 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1850 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Dec (NA) -- Around midday today some 50 former Justicialist deputies proposed that the armed forces "immediately hand over" the government to the Supreme Court of Justice, arguing that "the process (of national reorganization) has thoroughly failed."

They also indicate that the Supreme Court should form a cabinet of "conciliation and national unity, without any discrimination of party flags" and, after reorganizing the political parties, the Supreme Court should call general elections "as soon as possible."

The arguments raised by the group of former Justicialist deputies are contained in a declaration made public yesterday during a press conference given at a downtown office by Nicasio Sanchez Toranzo, Jose Amerise, Juan Labake, Rodolfo Arce, Ricardo Falu, Jorge Salomon and Clotilde de Volpe.

On this occasion, Labake warned that "there exists the possibility that sectors of the nation will confront each other and will lead us to a civil war," since "in the light of the nation's disintegration, the armed forces are unable to guarantee what will happen in the country tomorrow, or even the continuity of their governments."

The document is divided into three points; it makes a comprehensive analysis of the Argentine political, economic and social situation and points out that "in the face of this chaotic situation, it is necessary for the persons responsible for the government to put a speedy end to this regrettable experience."

Amerise explained, following a question put to him, that the proposal will be presented to the Justicialist leadership and that "all that the armed forces have performed during the national reorganization process will obviously be reviewed by the next freely elected congress."

CNEA CHAIRMAN ON REGION'S NUCLEAR PROGRAMS

PY161745 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1105 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (TELAM) -- Vice Adm Carlos Castro Madero, chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], said that, as far as he knows, the Chilean nuclear program is directed exclusively toward peaceful uses. Regarding the possibility that the Chilean program may lead to the manufacture of a nuclear bomb, he believes that it is not capable of doing so right now. Only in the very long term could it make one.

The CNEA chairman made the declaration during a press conference held yesterday to assess this year's progress in the Argentine nuclear program. As the press conference began, a journalist asked Madero about reports from abroad indicating that Chile may have a parallel plan for military purposes. He replied that the fact is that the Chilean nuclear program is directed at peaceful ends and that that country is in no position yet to manufacture a nuclear bomb.

Reviewing the Argentine nuclear program, he noted that negotiations over safeguard agreements for the Atucha II and the heavy-water plants were completed satisfactorily, without imposing any additional clause on Argentina's basic policy on this matter despite the heavy pressure for our country to give up its clear and responsible policy of independence in this field.

He then reported that, due to the government's economic and financial limitations, priorities had to be revised so that efforts can be concentrated on completing the Embalse plant first and then on the heavy-water manufacturing plant being built in Arroyito.

He reported that uranium concentrate production climbed to 143 tons and that 120 tons were shipped to fulfill a contract signed with Brazil. Assemblage of the conversion and evaporation plant acquired from the FRG for uranium dioxide production was completed as was the development of a nuclear material purification process which is protected by Argentine patent rights.

A pilot plant for production of 240 fuel elements for the Atucha plant was completed and the fuel elements are being used normally. The first zircalloy tubes were manufactured, thus acquiring a technology that can be applied in the field of conventional industry.

Engineering work for the processing plant -- which causes concern to countries possessing nuclear weapons -- has been fully developed, up to 78 percent in civil engineering, and the installation of electromechanical equipment has been started and is expected to be finished in August 1982.

On the international front, 35 percent of the nuclear research center in Peru was completed, the exchange agreement with Brazil began to be implemented, and Argentina may perhaps bid for the construction of a nuclear plant in Mexico.

Three new laminating machines and spare parts for the zircalloy manufacturing plant were acquired from the Soviet Union, which also shipped to us 5 tons of heavy water which we bought late in 1981.

CNEA Chairman Madero noted in conclusion the consistency and continuity of the Argentine nuclear program as a sign that the country is making progress despite difficult circumstances.

GOVERNMENT STATES CONCERN OVER POLISH SITUATION

PY160256 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0215 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Dec (NA) -- According to a communique released tonight, the Argentine Foreign Ministry tonight expressed the "deep concern with which the Argentine officials are following the development of the Polish domestic situation," and expressed also the "hope that that country may solve its problems within a framework of conciliation, without any foreign intervention. "

The communique, released a little before 0230 at San Martin Palace, stresses the prudence with which the Argentine Government assesses the situation in that agitated country of Eastern Europe, with which Argentina maintains diplomatic relations, according to authorized sources.

The text of the communique, released by San Martin Palace as "Press Report," reads as follows:

The Argentine Foreign Ministry follows with special interest the events in Poland which are known to the public. On 14 December, Polish Ambassador to Buenos Aires Czeslaw Limont appeared at San Martin Palace to report on the situation in his country.

The report was received with absolute attention by our Foreign Ministry, which also expressed to Ambassador Limont the great concern with which the Argentine officials are following the development of the Polish domestic situation, and the hope of our government that that country may solve its problems within a framework of conciliation, without any foreign intervention.

BRIEFS

COST OF LIVING INCREASE -- Buenos Aires, 4 Dec (TELAM) -- It has been reported by government sources that retail prices increased by 7.2 percent and wholesale prices by 11 percent in November. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1915 GMT 4 Dec 81 PY]

OIL, GAS RESERVES -- Comodoro Rivadavia, 13 Dec -- Gen Guillermo Suarez Mason, president of the Government Oil Deposits, has stated here that Argentina's proven reserves of oil and gas amount to 396 million cubic meters and 655 billion cubic meters, respectively. [Buenos Aires CRONICA in Spanish 14 Dec 81 p 7 PY]

MINISTER HAILS FOREIGN POLICY ACHIEVEMENTS

PY121457 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Dec 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Gonzalo Romero Alvarez Garcia has stated that in a 3-month period the armed forces government has practically fulfilled one of the objectives of international policy. He said that up to the time when Gen Celso Torrelio Villa assumed the government, the Bolivian foreign policy situation has been characterized by some aspects which demanded urgent attention. He was implicitly referring to the diplomatic isolation imposed by nations of the American and European continents and by international organizations due to the change in government in 1980. Alvarez Garcia stated that thanks to the efforts of the ministry he has been heading since September 1981, based on the strategy outlined by the government, Bolivian international relations have almost returned to complete normality.

He added that Bolivia has agian regained its normal participation in the different processes of subregional integration, and that through these mechanisms Bolivia has gained a better place within the OAS.

In a press conference held in his office, outlining the priority objectives of the government's international policy, the minister stated:

[Begin recording] The main objective was to normalize diplomatic relations if possible with all the countries that have suspended their relations. We have achieved this within a period of 90 days in office, and the armed forces government headed by General Torrelio Villa can boast of having achieved some objectives and advantages which enhance the country. In this manner, the first aspect, which is the normalization of international relations, has been achieved, and this will lead us to pay better attention to this aspect within the next few years. [end recording]

The other situation which has been overcome, stated, has been Bolivian participation in the processes of the Andean Pact and in the River Plate Basin. Referring to the latter integration treaty he stated:

[Begin recording] On this issue, the conference of River Plate Basin foreign ministers has by itself demonstrated the clear political will of Southern Cone countries which make up the River Plate Basin conference, to advance and set the basis for the common use of natural resources for the benefit of all, not only regarding the use of water resources but also regarding trade and the possibility of creating energy sources through hydroelectric dams. [end recording]

He felt that the current subregional organization made up of Bolivia, Uruguay, Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil, has been reorganized and that it has a new and more favorable image. He said that Bolivia had withdrawn from the Andean Pact countries -- Peru, Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela -- because they were being harmful and especially because of preparation of certain programs and established deadlines.

Referring to this issue, Alvarez Garcia stated: [Begin recording] In an effort to thrust the Andean Pact toward a new stage, due to encountering some crises of structure or even of a political and organizational nature, we have to create a new mentality to allow more operability and especially a spirit of cohesion which has given more prestige to the Andean Pact. The clearest and moet firm presence within the hemisphere has been that of the Andean Pact. [end recording]

He added that the prestige of this regional organization has led Bolivia to make contacts with the EEC, with which Bolivia is now negotiating agreements of a trade and industrial nature within a framework of political pluralism. [Begin recording] Finally, within this system of international organizations, we have the OAS which also embraces the Caribbean and South American subregions and the northern areas, not to mention the Central American countries.

The political crisis now affecting Central America had significant repercussions at the latest OAS general assemblies. The presence of a more cohesive Andean Pact -- as some differences between their members are being overcome -- is also a positive aspect in serious crises in the hemisphere, such as the Central American crisis. [end recording]

Landlocked Problem Discussed

PY121538 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Dec 81

[Text] The initial objective in solving our country's maritime problem is to awaken the interest and awareness of the hemisphere and of the world regarding the Bolivian landlocked problem. This statement was made by Foreign Minister Gonzalo Romero Alvarez Garcia at a press conference held in his office.

In this regard, the foreign minister stated that Chile constantly confuses bilateral problems with multilateral problems. He said that our country does not seek to make the problem a multilateral issue. Neither are we aware of the existence of a bilateral treaty. He added that the country's demand regarding the century-old maritime problem is similar to that presented by Panama regarding the problem with the United States on the Panama Canal. After 15 years of persistent demands, Panama has convinced the United States of the convenience of a bilateral solution.

The foreign minister also added that there is an absolute contradiction in the Chilean position expressed through its Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames, because though rejecting the proposal that the problem be discussed within the OAS, he signed the OAS resolution.

He also said that Bolivia will begin a new stage in this issue. He added, however, that the country will continue with the same line of demands and with the internationalization of the problem. Alvarez Garcia concluded that the international policy on the Bolivian maritime demand will be subject to a decision of the national government and to a consultative council to be established by the Foreign Ministry to prepare a (?final) strategy.

COMMANDS DENY REPORTED PARAGUAYAN TROOP INVASION

PY112153 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Text] The alleged Paraguayan invasions of Bolivian territory have been categorically denied. After consulting with the 5th Army Division command, the chief of staff of the 8th Division stationed in Santa Cruz said that the above report is not true.

(Reinaldo Vazquez) met with the Southern Army Division command and it was established that the alleged Paraguayan invasion is completely untrue.

However, 5th Division officers have started reconnaissance operations in the area starting from the El Trebol post where Paraguayan troops were supposedly seen.

A local peasant has reported that Paraguayan troops had been at a cattle-raising ranch in the El Trebol area where they reportedly replenished their water supply.

For his part, Santa Cruz Prefect Lt Col Maximo Garcia said that he has requested precise information regarding the report. He explained that this information should be submitted to him as quickly as possible since the area is under his jurisdiction.

EXILED POLITICAL LEADERS PETITION TO RETURN

PY151823 Paris AFP in Spanish 1547 GMT 12 Dec 81

[Text] La Paz, 12 Dec (AFP -- Bolivian attorney Juan Rojas has filed habeas corpus petitions in favor of former Presidents Hernan Siles Suazo, Walter Guevara Arce and Lidia Gueiler Tejada, as well as of politicians Juan Lechin Oquendo and Luis Pelarez Rioja, to allow their immediate return to the country, enjoying all the guarantees set forth in the state's political constitution. The petition which has beenfiled to the La Paz Superior Court points out what the present government has publicly pledged its word, as an international commitment, to restore democracy in Bolivia and in its institutions.

Rojas says that in this case, the La Pax Superior Court will have to pass judgment on the exile of the above-mentioned citizens on the basis of the country's constitution and of the universal human rights declaration, of which Bolivia is a signatory country.

He then points out that exiling is illegal and for that reason arbitrary, and that their existence contradicts President Celso Torrelio Villa's public declaration on ruling the country with the law in his hands.

Finally, he indicates that this petition does not concern other exiled persons, for the complete list is unknown, despite the fact that the Catholic Church has already presented a request for a general and unlimited amnesty in their favor.

Court Denies Petition

PY160240 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Dr (Agustin Camacho), president of the La Paz District Court of Appeals, has reported that the court turned down a habeas corpus petition filed on behalf of former government dignataries and two clergymen.

The petition, which was filed by attorney Juan Rojas on 11 Decmeber was destined to benefit Hernan Siles Zuazo, Luis Pelaez Rioja, Walter Guevara Arze, Juan Lechin Oquendo and Lidia Gueiler Tejada and Protestant ministers (Mortimer Arias) and (Anibal Guzman).

[Begin (Camacho) recording] endorsing the opinion of the prosecutor, the court has ruled that the petition made by attorney Rojas does not fall under Article 18 of the Constitution which refers to cases of illegal harassment, undue process or detention.

Attorney Rojas has based his petition on the exile status of the would-be beneficiaries and has asked for a court authorization for all exiles, that is, a virtual blanket authorization. The court has ruled that it is not within its prerogatives to honor such a petition and has turned down the habeas corpus petition. [end recording]

Judge (Camacho) said that the above citizens are not being persecuted, tried nor are they under arrest, cases which would fall under the habeas corpus guarantee. He stated that no evidence was presented at the hearings to prove that the above citizens had applied for visas and that they had been denied such visas by the respective Bolivian consulates.

[Begin (Camacho) recording] We do not mean that these people cannot return to Bolivia. By no means. If they have applied for visas, it is up to the Interior Ministry to grant them or to deny them. We cannot anticipate the course of action the appropriate authorities will take on this matter. [end recording]

Judge (Camacho) also reported that the court's decision will now be sent to the Supreme Court which will pass the final decision to the case.

REPORT ON COMIBOL, CHURCH, MINERS NEGOTIATIONS

PY112202 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Text] The study of a note submitted by the Huanuni workers was resumed this morning in the negotiations being held by COMIBOL [Mining Corporation of Bolivia], the mineworkers and the Catholic Church.

The deliberations started at 0800 and ended at 1200 when a 2-hour interval was declared. These negotiations, which are being carried out in an atmosphere of full understanding and cordiality, are being held at COMIBOL's headquarters. They were started last Monday with the participation of mineworker delegates and Catholic Church officials with the purpose of discussing three demands which had been submitted to the government. The item now under consideration is the one related to the resumption of union activities. It was submitted directly to this group. The salary raise and the reopening of the mineworkers' radio stations are being considered by commissions created for that purpose.

A resolution has been approved on the appointment of a special three-party commission which will be in charge of supplying information to the press. These negotiations will be resumed this afternoon at 1500.

COCHABAMBA HUNGER STRIKE BY FORMER LABOR LEADERS

PY151337 Paris AFP in Spanish 0212 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] La Paz, 14 Dec (AFP) -- Ten Bolivian former labor leaders started a hunger strike this morning in the Cochabamba Cathedral in central Bolivia, demanding the free functioning of trade unions and a general unlimited amnesty for political exiles. This protest began when mining workers' grassroot leaders were holding talks with government officials in this capital city to discuss subjects such as the legal recognition of trade unions, increase of wages and salaries and the return of labor union radio stations.

Analysts consider that the Cochabamba hunger strike headed by Licio Lopez, former secretary general of the Cochabamba factory workers' federation, will very likely become a pressure factor at the negotiations which are being held in La Paz, with the Catholic Church's mediation. They also recalled that on Christmas 1977 a wide-spread hunger strike was staged in Bolivia, which forced Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez' administration to decree a general amnesty and to initiate the democratic process.

DETAILS OF GOVERNMENT ANTIDRUG LAW OUTLINED

PY152337 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Text] Bolivia recognizes the jurisdiction of foreign courts over drug traffic cases which, due to having international connections, may have affected the respective countries. This legal provision is included in the law for the control of and struggle against dangerous substances under the title International Procedures, Articles 61 through 65.

The law states that drug trafficking is an international crime. This entails Bolivia's tacit recognition of foreign courts' jurisdiction over all drug traffic cases which may have ramifications outside the country.

The law states that the crimes defined therein will also be considered as crimes in those countries in which they may have ramifications. Therefore, the jurisdiction the courts of any of the countries affected by these crimes have to hear such cases is hereby recognized.

In case of a crime having ramifications in two or more countries, Bolivia will honor the request of that country which produced the soundest evidence or of that which submitted it first.

The law adds that the existence of a criminal connection will be assumed whenever there are clues and evidence of a prior agreement between a manufacturer, a seller or a buyer; or between an organizer or a financier, despite the fact that this crime always requires the participation of several persons at different places and times.

Regarding cases of extradition in the absence of an extradition treaty, the law states that the affected country may ask Bolivia to extradite a convicted criminal even if there is no treaty. The statute of limitations is set at 15 years computed from the date of the crime.

The law states that an extradition request will be processed in keeping with Article 45 of the Code of Penal Procedures. It adds that the Bolivian Government will assume responsibility for keeping the defendant under preventive arrest and if appropriate, for turning him over to the government which requested his extradition.

Extradition requests will be decided, positively or negatively, within 30 days upon their presentation to the minister of foreign relations and worship. If the above period has elapsed without the Supreme Court having passed a decision on the request, those officials or magistrates who are responsible for the delay will be sentenced to a 1-year jail term, in accordance with article 45 of the penal code, and will also be immediately dismissed.

Also under the title International Procedures, the law establishes rules for the recognition of convictions handed by foreign courts to determine whether the defendant is a repeater or how much time he is to serve.

The law also states that drug trafficking is a crime against society which can be heard by any court even if no criminal lawsuit has been filed and which is also of an international nature. And since there is a common interest in avoiding and punishing drug trafficking, the national antidrug council will coordinate the appropriate actions with international organizations such as the United Nations, the OAS, and the South American Agreement on Psychotropic drugs.

COMMISSION ESTABLISHED TO STUDY GEM DEPOSIT

PY141930 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 14 Dec 81

[Text] President Celso Torrelio Villa has imparted instructions regarding the La Gaiba case. The semiprecious stones that have been illegally exploited and are right now in deposit will be handed over to the custody of the Bolivian Mining Bank. A special commission will study the possible exploitation of the deposit which will be under government control. Moreover, a commission made up of the mining and metallurgy minister, the comptroller general and the armed forces chief of staff will travel to the area in the next few hours.

Col Carlos Morales, the mining and metallurgy minister, reported that this was the main issue of discussion at a meeting he held at Government House with President Torrelio Villa. Morales said that the president is studying the future rational exploitation of the La Gaiba deposits so that the entire nation may be benefited. He added that the government first lift restrictions that declare this area a government reserve region so that the proper exploitation may be undertaken. The minister noted that this area is encompassed in the constitutional provision that restricts all areas within 50 km of the border [from being exploited].

Answering journalists' questions, Minister Morales said that a government commission will visit La Gaiba to establish the amount of precious stones in deposit. He said that the commission will be made up of himself; the comptroller general, Gen Antonio Ovando Rojas; and the armed forces chief of staff, Gen Ruben Rocha Pation. This commission will hand over the precious stones found in the deposits located in the Rincon del Tigre, Robore and Santa Cruz areas to the custody of the Bolivian Mining Bank.

GOVERNMENT REPORTEDLY STUDYING PRC URANIUM OFFER

PY162207 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Dec 81 p 9

[Text] The National Security Council is studying a proposal made by the PRC to sell enriched uranium to Brazil. The degree of enrichment and quality will be discussed jointly, in case the offer is accepted. This report was released by official sources linked both to the energy and diplomatic sectors. The proposal will probably be discussed at the farewell meeting which Ambassador Zhang Dequn, who is returning to Beijing, will hold with Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals on Wednesday.

PRC diplomats, however, declined to comment on the issue, arguing that they were "absolutely" ignorant of the issue. They stated that they would rather have the report -- "in case it is correct" -- verified by Itamaraty. The same sources voiced assurances that the proposal, presented less than 2 months ago, caused Brazilian officials "tremendous surprise," although there are other offers of that kind by countries such as the Soviet Union, Italy and France. They also said that there hasn't been any decision, whether agreeing to or turning down the offer, yet by the government.

The offer made by the Chinese as part of a number of understandings seeking to increase trade with Brazil, as explained by the same sources, who consider this kind of export "normal." In conclusion, the year 1981 recorded a significant trade increase between the two countries, reaching $400 million in 1981 against a little more than $300 million in 1980. Right now, PETROBRAS [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] is importing 30,000 barrels of crude oil from the PRC, and PETROBRAS President Shigeaki Ueki already twice set and postponed his trip to Beijing due to problems in the international sector of petroleum which require his presence in the country.

The same sources gave assurances that Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro has accepted an invitation from the PRC Government and that he will visit that country in 1982, although no date has yet been established. Itamaraty will announce the name of the ambassador who will replace Zhang Dequn. The PRC Embassy has already submitted a request for agreement for his successor. The departing diplomat will give a farewell reception on 17 December, and he has already appeared in congress to bid farewell. According to the same sources, although he speaks no portuguese at all, since assuming his post in 1975 the PRC ambassador has been considered one of the most correct diplomats to represent the PRC in Brazil.

The offer of uranium to the Brazilian officials is part also of the official position of the PRC Government, that is, support for the agreement signed between Brazil and the FRG. The PRC leaders feel -- according to the same sources -- that each nation must develop its own efforts to firm up its nuclear policy independent of the world powers, the United States and the Soviet Union. In the case of the proposal made to Brazil, the Chinese demand clauses that the material to be negotiated not be transferred to a third nation, "especially to South Africa and Israel, or to be used for other than peaceful means."

In this regard, the sources indicated that Brazil is aware that the accusation which appeared in European newspapers is not true, that the Chinese were negotiating enriched uranium with South Africa, or that they were using the French for this purpose, "unless a robbery occurred, something which is becoming very common in this area."

FIGUEIREDO CONGRATULATES PEREZ DE CUELLAR

PY160200 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] President Figueiredo today sent a telegram to Peruvian Ambassador Javier Perez de Cuellar on the occasion of his designation as secretary general of the United Nation:

I am plased to convey to Your Excellency my personal satisfaction on seeing an illustrious son of the Peruvian nation rise to the post of secretary general of the United Nations. Your performance, I am certain, will be a source of pride to all the international community. Cordial greetings.

Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro also cabled the Peruvian diplomat:

At the moment when your designation is confirmed to the post of secretary general of the United Nations, I am particularly pleased to extend warm and cordial greetings and voice our assurance that the developing countries, and Latin America especially, can be pleased with this election. I am certain that all world responsibilities you have now undertaken will be faced with the appropriate intelligence and decisionmaking power which you possess.

Please rest assured that Brazil will lend all support to the success of your superior and honorable mission. With the expressions of my personal friendship and highest consideration.

Changes UN Delegation

PY141739 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 11 Dec 81 p 4

[Text] Brasilia -- In a decree issued late yesterday afternoon by the Planalto Palace, President Joao Figueiredo has excluded Senator Tancredo Neves, president of the Popular Party [PP], from the delegation that will represent Brazil to the UN General Assembly session. He has been replaced by Senator Jose Fragelli, member of the PP from Mato Grosso do Sul.

ITAMARATY REGRETS CHANGES IN ARGENTINE POSTS

PY152117 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 13 Dec 81 p 14

[Text] Brasilia -- Itamaraty officials have cited words by Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro concerning the replacement of Gen Roberto Eduardo Viola as a reaction from Brasilia to the news. "We are certain that occasional changes which pertain exclusively to Argentine domestic affairs will not change our relations, based on the balance of interest."

Although Itamaraty diplomats have nothing against Gen Leopoldo Galtieri, they have been disappointed with General Viola's withdrawal because he had given an excellent course to the rapprochement initiated by his predecessor Gen Jorge Rafael Videla.

The diplomats particularly regretted the loss of Oscar Camilion who had been ambassador to Brasilia before assuming charge of General Viola's Foreign Ministry, playing a vital role in the rapprochement between the two countries. Since he is not a career diplomat, Camilion is not likely to maintain contacts with his successor, probably Nicanor da Costa Mendes, former foreign minister of Gen Juan Carlos Ongania.

NAVY MINISTER REVEALS ACTIVITIES IN ANTARCTICA

PY110214 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 10 Dec 81 p 14

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- According to Itamaraty, one of the best kept diplomatic-military secrets in recent years was revealed yesterday in an interview given by Navy Minister Adm Maximiano da Fonseca Brazilian Navy officers' participation in Antarctic expeditions at the invitation of the Chilean and British Governments. The attitude of noninvolvement which Brazil wanted to maintain regarding the dispute of those two countries with Argentina over territorial possessions in the Antarctic was thus compromised.

The navy minister did not say when the mission took place, but it was learned that it occurred in 1979. According to the ministers, the officials who participated in the mission are now in the reserves. One of them took the trip aboard the Endurance, the icebreaker which is now the subject of negotiations between Brazil and Great Britain.

In the opinion of Itamaraty, which yesterday did not make any comment on this mission, the indiscretion of Admiral Fonseca represents an unexpected problem which is potentially serious for future negotiations with Argentina regarding Brazil's plans in the Antarctic. It is known that, despite proclamations of the Brazilian Government through its spokesmen that it does not have territorial ambitions in the Antarctic, any Brazilian plan for an expedition to that continent will at the outset raise the problem of defining the site to which the mission will be sent.

Considering that Argentina's and Chile's official maps perfectly delimit their respective areas of sovereignty (according to the territorial principle of across-lying land) [De Frontacao -- lines are extended from the eastern and western extremes of a country's border to the end of the axis passing through the center of the south pole; the area of the Antarctica lying between those lines is recognized to belong to that country] and that the area claimed by Argentina already includes that which should belong to Brazil by extension of the eastern point of reference -- the Martim Vaz Island -- the foreign minister was asked about the problem of the Brazilian expedition site. Minister Saraiva Guerreior excused himself from giving an answer by saying that "I think it is too early to think about this. We have to take care of other things first, such as finding a ship appropriate for our expedition."

Further Navy Statement

PY110227 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 10 Dec 81

["Official note" released by the Navy Ministry on 10 December]

[Text] In the face of a report published today, 10 December, by a Rio de Janeior newspaper, the public relations adviser of the Navy Ministry staff has made the following statement:

Brazil has great interest in complying with the treaty now in force and does not accept any territorial claim [over the Antarctic] since the treaty itself establishes that only those nations which conducted research activities in the Antarctic will have a say on the consultative council of the treaty after 1991. Thus it is indispensible to make expeditions to the Antarctic. It is no secret that some Brazilian navy officers have actually gone to that area at the invitation of the British and Chilean navies.

Contrary to what is contended in the referenced report, the Brazilian Navy deems it indispensable to have the cooperation of other nations, especially from South America, in view of the experience which has already been achieved through expeditions carried out to that region.

ADMIRAL CITES NAVY'S RELATIVE ADVANTAGES

PY142107 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 14 Dec 81 p 5

[Text] Sao Paul (O GLOBO) -- Adm Milton Ribeiro de Carvalho, chairman of the Naval Commission yesterday said that as far as naval power in Latin America is concerned "there is balance between Argentina and Brazil." However, "Brazil's greatest advantage is that the country is moving toward self-supply [nacionalizacao]." The admiral said: "This is where we come out better in any comparison because the country which imports the ships for its navy will always be subject to foreign conditions and factors."

The admiral made this remark while waiting for Sao Paulo Governor Paulo Maluf in the gardens of Ibirapuera, in order to begin the ceremony commemorating sailor's day at the new Amigos da Marinha Square where a statue of Tamandare has been errected.

NETO TO HEAD PLANNING 'SUPERMINISTRY' IN 1982

PY141434 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 14 Dec 81

[Excerpt] The presidential planning secretariat--SEPLAN--headed by Minister Delfim Neto will become a superministry in 1982. As a result of the changes to be made, the superministry will become the only coordinator of the main sectors of the economy. Along with the superministry to be headed by Delfim Neto, a big council to be headed by SEPLAN General Secretary Flavio Pecora will also be created.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES APPROVES 'INELEGIBILITY LAW'

PY161348 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Excerpts] With all deputies of the Social Democratic Party [PDS] in attendance, the Chamber of Deputies approved the inelegibility law yesterday and decided to discuss the bill creating the state of Rondonia on a priority basis. This first show of force by the PDS caused surprise in opposition sectors.

The ineligibility law empowers annestied politicians to run for elective posts. It does not, however, grant the same right to union leaders whose mandates had been canceled, as is the case of Luiz Inacio da Silva, who is also known as Lula. Another politician affected by the ineligibility law is Benedito Marcilio, former president of the Union of Metalworkers of Santo Andre.

POPULAR PARTY ANNOUNCES 'INCORPORATION' INTO PMDB

PY110008 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] Brasilia -- The national executive board of the Popular Party [PP] has approved the party's incorporation into the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party [PMDB] and has convoked a PP convention for 20 December to implement this measure.

Immediately upon the announcement of the above decision, Social Democratic Party [EDS] President Jose Sarney announced that his party will ask the electoral court to ban the incorporation. Sarney said the PDS will claim that since the PP members pledged to comply with the party's platform when they joined it, the PP incorporation into the PMDB will be unconstitutional.

AIR MINISTER UNDERGOES BYPASS OPERATION IN U.S.

PY161351 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Excerpt] After undergoing an operation for the implantation of two saphenous bypasses, Air Minister Gen Delio Jardim de Matos is in good condition. He was operated on at the same Cleveland clinic where President Figueiredo recently underwent a number of tests. Today the minister will remain in the intensive care ward. He cannot receive visitors and will stay at the clinic until Christmas He will spend his convalescence period in Miami.

GOVERNMENT SUBMITS ELECTORAL LAW TO CONGRESS

PY141051 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 1 Dec 81 p 2

[Government Electoral Law Proposal Submitted to Congress on 30 November 1981]

[Text] Article 1 -- Elections for governors, vice governors, senators and substitutes, federal and state deputies, mayors, vice mayors and councilmen will be held simultaneously throughout the country on 15 November 1982.

Article 2 -- Regional and municipal conventions to choose candidates for elective posts in the respective districts will be held 6 months prior to the election date.
Paragraph 1 -- In order to be voted on at the party conventions, the candidates must be nominated by at least 10 percent of the convention delegates or by the executive committee.
Paragraph 2 -- None of the convention delegates or candidates can sign for more than one list.
Paragraph 3 -- The lists will be presented to the conventions and will be voted on in separate ballotings for national and for local elections.
Paragraph 4 -- Each list must nominate candidates for all elections to be held in the respective districts.
Paragraph 5 -- A list which does not meet the requirements of the previous paragraph will not be submitted to a vote by the convention delegates but is subject to being declared invalid.
Paragraph 6 -- Delegates will be allowed to participate in different elections at the same convention.
Paragraph 7 -- In municipalities where the political parties have not established a board, it will be up to the provisional municipal board commission to call for a municipal convention and designate representative delegates in case there are a number of affiliates who are in a position to participate in the elections, according to Article 35 of Law No 5,682/71 (Charter of Political Parties).

Article 3 -- The number of deputies for the Chamber of Deputies and legislative assemblies per state will be set by the higher electoral court by 31 May 1982, respecting the provisions of Articles 39 and 13, paragraph 6 of the Federal Constitution.

Article 4 -- Current federal and state deputies will be considered incumbent candidates of the parties to which they belong if they respect the deadline for affiliation with the party and also the provision of paragraph 3 of Article 67, Law No 5,682 of 21 July 1971.
Paragraph 1 -- The incumbent candidates will not be on thelists presented to the convention or submitted to a vote by the convention delegates but will have their names automatically submitted for registration.

Article 5 -- The presidents of the regional and municipal boards of parties will request that the electoral court register the candidates nominated in their respective districts.
Pargraph 1 -- No registration will be allowed of list that do not nominate candidates for all elections, whether at state level (governors, vice governors, senators and substitutes, federal and state deputies) or at the municipal level (mayors, vice mayors and councilmen), under penalty of being declared invalid.

Paragraph 2 -- In case of death, resignation or refusal to register a candidate for general elections, the party must provide a substitute within a period of 10 days, under the punishment of automatic cancellation of the registration of the other candidates.

Article 6 -- The resignation of the candidate from any elective post will only be accepted if the request is made jointly by the candidate and the party.

Article 7 -- The tacit or explicit withdrawal of a candidate for governor will lead to the invalidation of the votes cast for the party.

Article 8 -- In the elections provided for in this law, the voter will vote only for candidates that belong to the same party, under the punishment of invalidating the votes for all posts.
Paragraph 1 --When the party does not have a board organized in the municipality or sufficient affiliates to carry out the convention to choose candidates, in accordance with paragraph 7 of article 2, the lack of nominations for municipal post will not prompt the rejection of the slate of candidates for state and federal elections.
Paragraph 2 -- The electoral court will decide regarding the balloting process.

Article 9 -- Any act during the period between 90 days prior to the elections of 15 November and the end of the state governor's term that attempts to nominate, contract, designate or reinstate an official or proceeds toward any other forms of public appointment, whether within the government-owned or autonomous offices or public enterprises, or within societies or joint state and municiapl economies, are vetoed and considered absolutely void and will not generate any kind of oblitation for the goverment office involved or grant any right to the beneficiary.
Paragraph 1 -- The following points are expected from this article:
1. Naming or contracting necessary for the unpostponable installation of essential public services, with previous and explicit authorization by the governor or mayor;
2. Naming and contracting of technicians indispensable for the functioning of the special public service;
3. Nomination for posts within a commission, the courts; the prosecutor's office; and, with the approval of the respective legislative body, within the national accounting office;
4. Nomination of those designated by public competition approved until 15 November 1982.
Paragraph 2 -- Such act and its appropriate basis will be published in the respective official gazette.

Article 10. Public workers, whether they are subject to the national, state or municipal administration, or by the statutes or public enterprises, and the employees of concessionary enterprises of public services, will be guaranteed the right to receive their payments and advantages or salaries as if they were fulfilling their regular duties, during the period between their registration as candidates before the electoral court and the day following the elections, by merely reporting the withdrawal to begin electoral campaign.

Article 11. Articles 93 and 173 of Law No 4,737 of 15 July 1965 (electoral code) are implemented with the following changes:

"Article 93. The deadline for the presentation -- whether at the civil registry or at the court's secretariat, according to the case -- of the request for registration of the candidate for an elective post will fall without exception at 1800 on the 90th day prior to the date set for the elections.
"Paragraph 1 -- By the 70th day before the date set for the elections, all requests must be already considered, including those which could have been questioned.
"Paragraph 2 -- Party conventions to choose candidates will be held a maximum of 10 days before the deadline for the presentation of the registration request either at the electoral court or at the court's secretariat."

"Article 173.
"Only paragraph -- An electronic system will be allowed for counting the votes, according to the decision of the supreme electoral court or in the manner established by this court."

Article 12 -- The first paragraph of Article 1 of Law No 1,533 of 31 December 1951 now reads as follows:
"Article 1.
"Paragraph 1 -- The following officials are included in this law: representatives or bodies representing political parties, or representatives or managers of self-supporting government enterprises, and government officials or legal representatives of government-owned organizations exercising public duty but strictly pertaining to these duties."

Article 13. Articles 5 and 8 of Decree Law No 1,541 issued on 14 April 1977 will now read as follows:
"Article 5.
"Paragraph 1 -- In case of a municipal dispute, the executive commission of the regional party board, through a majority decision of its members, will submit the name of one of the candidates for prefect, on an intraparty subgroup ticket at the request of 1/3 of the party councilmen or of a federal or state deputy who has achieved an overwhelming victory in the municipal elections.
"Paragraph 2 -- The aforementioned request must be submitted to the regional board within 48 hours after the municipal convention to choose these candidates has been called.
"Paragraph 3 -- The regional executive commission must study this request and if it is approved, it must nominate the candidate for the municipal executive commission within 48 hours and 8 hours before the aforementioned convention is held.
"Paragraph 4 -- Once the regional commission has nominated the candidate for prefect on an intraparty subgroup ticket the municipal convention may submit up to two intraparty subgroup tickets to participate in the same election.
"Paragraph 5 -- Those who propose candidates to the convention or to the regional party board will be considered persons instituting the intraparty subgroup tickets for all the purposes of this law.
"Article 8.
"Paragraph 1 -- Whenever the regional board nominates a candidate on an intraparty subgroup ticket in compliance with the first paragraph of Article No 5 of this decree law, it will also be able to appoint, under the same terms, 1/3 of the candidates for the municipal chamber.
"Paragraph 2 -- The other candidates that it is the party's right to have will be appointed by the municipal convention in compliance with the terms in the beginning of this article."

Article 14. The superior electoral court will issue the proper instructions for the fulfillment of this law.

Article 15. Law No 5,779 issued on 31 May 1972 is hereby repealed.

Article 16. This law goes into force as of the day it is published.

ANGRA I NUCLEAR POWERPLANT SUFFERS ANOTHER DELAY

PY161755 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 10 Dec 81 p 20

[Excerpt] The Angra I nuclear plant has experienced another delay in its 10 years of construction. FURNAS President Licinio Seabra has reported that the plant will not start commercial operations until next April. He said, however, that if by April 1982 electricity consumption remains at current levels, the operation of Angra I will be optional and can be dispensed with due to the high cost of nuclear fuel.

Seabra explained that the plant will not start operations this month as scheduled because the critical tests (last of a series) have not yet been concluded. The delay was also caused by "some adjustments that will have to be made before the plant starts commercial operations on a permanent basis." However, he did not say what kind of "adjustments" have to be made.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCES MAJOR GOVERNMENT DECISIONS

PA161238 Quito Voz de Los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] Several priorities considered fundamental to the government's program were outlined during the Council of Ministers session at the presidential palace. These government decisions were revealed by Public Information Secretary General Ernesto Alban Gomez, who said:

[Begin recording] In the first place, we have the legislative program. We need to promote the constitutional reform project. This project was outlined following the talks held by the government minister and the various political parties. Almost all agreed on the need for a bill to broadly amend various aspects of the existing constitution. For example, this will be a basic government legislative project. There will also be other laws to promote various projects of the national development plan. Some of these bills have been presented; others have been already drafted and are about to be presented to the legislature. Others must be drafted in order to implement all the various [word indistinct].

Another problem of high priority concerns our territory. As you may recall, in his message of 10 August, the president of the republic noted the need to arrive at a national consensus on Ecuador's territorial position. The Foreign Affairs Ministry is in charge of this activity. Naturally the ministry is acting with discretion because this is a very important and delicate matter.

In the third place, we have the country's economic situation. In short, a key sector of the national situation involves economic problems which are, to a certain extent, responsible for many of the crises which the country has suffered in recent weeks. Three basic aspects of the economic situation must be considered. They are the fiscal aspect, in short, the need to reduce the budget deficit to a minimum. An austerity policy and a program to increase tax revenue would be the supports for this basic line.

We had a very intensive discussion on the foreign sector of our economy. Special emphasis was given to the need to increase the country's exports and the need to improve our trade balance. Naturally, petroleum has an important place here. Our petroleum policy is also an essential sector of the national government, not only for this reason but also for many other reasons.

Regarding strictly the economic sector, we spoke of the need to control inflation within the limits that the country has experienced in these past years without allowing an exaggerated increase of prices that could have serious consequences. [end recording]

These were the governmental decisions announced by Information Secretary Ernesto Alban Gomez.

MINISTER SAYS OIL PRICES TO REMAIN UNCHANGED

PA161215 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] Natural Resources Minister Eduardo Ortega Gomez has confirmed that Ecuador will maintain the price of its crude at $34.25 per barrel. At a news conference, the minister explained that the OPEC decision to reduce oil prices affects certain crudes. This is the case of the African producers; Nigeria, Libya and Algeria, who were faced with the problem of prices and differentials. The conflict, he said, was apparently resolved during the OPEC meeting in Abu Dhabi, which decided to reduce the differentials of those countries by $0.50.

The difference between what those countries formerly charged and what they will receive now has not divided those countries, the minister added. He said there was a problem regarding the heavy crude produced by Iran, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. The price of this crude was also reduced.

The resolution does not affect the price of the other member countries of the organization, which has been maintained at the same level that was approved in October, that is, at $34 a barrel. Quito will be the site of the conference of OPEC ministers to be held in May, 1982 according to the minister. The decision to hold the meeting in Quito was made at the OPEC meeting held recently in Abu Dhabi. The minister said that one of the central issues to be discussed at the meeting will be long-range OPEC strategy. It was decided at the Abu Dhabi meeting that this strategy will be established in 1982.

New Operations Announced

PA160343 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] Natural Resources Minister Eduardo Ortega Gomez confirmed today that on 28 December the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation, CEPE, will initiate drilling operations in the Gulf of Guayaquil. The momentous announcement was made during a news conference, at which time the minister also released other information regarding his ministry's policies for the immediate future, in the wake of his return from the OPEC conference. According to the minister, the drilling platform is about to arrive in national waters and will be installed in the next few days at the site chosen for the operations. There are great expectations that gas will be found in this first well to be drilled by CEPE, because it is located in an area that has been extensively explored and has a history of successful operations. The drilling, which will begin late this month, will be the first of a series of operations designed to tap gas deposits in the Gulf of Guayaquil.

On another subject, the natural resources minister announced that an agreement has been signed with (PREDESUR), for mining exploration in Loja province. There are also great expectations regarding this activity. Let's listen to the natural resources minister as he announces the mining operations on the country's southern border: [Begin recording] This is important, because it is a definite attempt to fulfill one of the greatest desires of the president of the republic, which is to give this province -- which is on the border to begin with and which has very few sources of employment and which has a great future in the mining area -- a chance for employment that is not now available to the residents of Loja, a chance for employment that will be highly profitable for the country and the province. For this reason, with the establishment of this agreement with (PREDESUR), the ministry will be embarking upon generalized prospecting operations in Loja province. In this effort, we have been supported by the cooperation and the interest of (PREDESUR). The ministry has technicians, but not the equipment with which to carry out this prospecting. That equipment will be supplied by (PREDESUR). However, this matter, which I believe is fundamental to life in Loja province and in the country, also fits into a much more general context. When I named (Pedro Fraule) as director general of geology and mines, I told you that we were going to reorganize the country's mining sector. This is the first effective step in the reorganization of the general directorate of geology and mines. To date, the directorate has been basically concerned with administering the country's mining contracts, more or less adequately. It has been an administrative office. The ministry and the president of the republic want the general directorate of geology and mines to cease being merely an administrative office, an office that handles mining contracts, whether properly or improperly. They want the directorate, with its technicians and other employees, to become involved in research and in exploration in this country, which has great hopes in this regard. That is why I say that these agreements with (PREDESUR) constitute the first step to be taken by the directorate in this direction. We will go to other provinces also, taking technicians to work in the field rather than at desks. This has been very well received by all the officials and employees of the directorate. Administratively, the reorganization basically consists of the establishment of three major units; one for research, another for implementation and another for control and supervision. [end recording]

CEREMONY MARKS REORGANIZATION OF ARMED FORCES

PY152046 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 15 Dec 81 p 12

[Excerpt] In his capacity as commander in chief of the armed forces, President Gen Alfredo Stroessner began to implement yesterday the reorganization of the armed forces which in accordance with a decree promulgated late last year calls for the creation of 3 army corps, a combat support command, a logistics command, and a military education institutes command.

A special ceremony to that effect was held in the great general headquarters yesterday and the new commanders were placed in the new posts in the presence of all high-ranking military commanders.

Maj Gen Andres Rodriguez, who now commands the 1st Cavalry Division, was appointed as commander of the I Army Corps which will be composed of the 1st Calvalry Division, the 1st Infantry Division and the 3d Infantry Division located in San Juan Bautista de Las Misiones.

Commander of the II Army Corps is Brig Gen Pedro R. Florentin. This army corps will have its command post in Villarcia and it will be composed of the Infantry Division of Villarica, the 4th Infantry Division of Concepcion, and the 5th Infantry Division with its seat in Curuguaty.

The III Army Corps will be under the command of Brig Gen Eduardo Sanchez and its headquarters will be in Mariscal Estigarribia (Chaco). It will be made up of the 6th Infantry Division of Mariscal Estigarribia, the 7th Infantry Division to be created at Fort First Lt Alfredo Stroessner (former Campo Jurado, south of Pratts Gill), and the 8th Infantry Division to be created at Fort Lagerenza.

The command of the Combat Support Command is to be held by Maj Gen German Martinez. This new army body will encompass the artillery garrison of Paraguari, the engineering command and the communications command, and its command post will be in Asuncion.

Maj Gen Gerardo Alberto Johannsen will be commander of the Military Education Institutes Command (CIME). He is now commander of the Marshall Francisco Solano Lopez Military College. CIME will embrace the Command and Joint Staff School, Armed Forces Vocational School, Military College, Acosta Nu Military Academy, and Military Instruction Center for Reserve Officers Training (CIMEFOR).

The Logistical Support Command will be commanded by Maj Gen Cesar Machuca Vargas and it will be made up of the Quartermaster Service Directorate, Health Service Directorate, Agricultural and Livestock Service Directorate, Ammunition Depot Directorate, Transport Service Directorate, Draft and Mobilization Service Directorate, and Military Geographic Institute.

Maj Gen Guillermo Clebsch has taken over as military household chief, replacing Brig Gen Luis Esteban Olmedo who will be given a new assignment. General Clebsch is now commander of the Presidential Guard Regiment.

[Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish on 15 December, page 18, adds the following information: "Brig Gen Luis Olmedo has been appointed new director of the Marshall Francisco Solano Lopez Military College, Gen Orlando Machuca Vargas as commander of the 1st Cavalry Division, and Col Justo Roa Benitez as commander of the 5th Infantry Division with seat in Curuguaty."]

COMMANDER WARNS PARTIES ON 'FOREIGN IDEOLOGIES'

PY102111 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1500 GMT 9 Dec 81

[Text] Montevideo, 9 Dec (TELAM) -- The commander in chief of the army, Lt Gen Luis Vicente Queirolo, last night revealed in Mercedes, about 300 km northeast of here, that the Armed Forces Political Affairs Commission (COMASPO) has warned the political parties about the infiltration of foreign ideologies into the country's traditions. Queirolo said that this is a matter which greatly concerns COMASPO, the junta of generals and the president. He added that COMASPO [words indistinct] indicated to the representatives of the political parties the government's displeasure created by this situation.

He then said: we have (?warned) the political parties not to be deceived because the armed forces will not permit it. In conclusion he said that the political parties have to understand that the armed forces are never going to (?yield).

On 30 November, infiltrated elements tried to carry out a demonstration against the government by organizing a rally at 18 Julio Avenue, on the main street of this capital. This resulted in a warning from the Interior Ministry saying that it will severely repress this type of demonstration.

COMASPO Talks With Parties

PY100322 Paris AFP in Spanish 0442 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Montevideo, 1 Dec (AFP) -- Gen Abdon Raimundez, chairman of the Armed Forces Political Affairs Committee (COMASPO) has declared here today that military officers and Uruguayan parties will resume talks within the next few days without radical discrepancies, but with different opinions. According to this officer: At present there are three fundamental points on which we do not agree, nor do the parties themselves.

General Raimundez said that one of those points refers to compulsory voting in the internal party elections, while the second point refers to the appointment of its transitory authorities. These authorities would be appointed through elections in 1982, and their office would expire in 1984, which will be the year in which general elections will be held.

COMASPO's chairman pointed out that the last point refers to the number of rolls or lists that must be submitted to the next elections. He remarked that there are no radical discrepancies despite the nonagreement on these points.

General Raimundez disclosed that the corresponding speakers of the traditional Blanco and Colorado parties will shortly meet with COMASPO to discuss these subjects at length.

THREE POLITICAL PARTIES TO CONTEST 1984 ELECTIONS

PY101642 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1925 GMT 9 Dec 81

[Text] Montevideo, 9 Dec (TELAM) --Two high-ranking military officers said today that only the three political parties that have maintained contact with the armed forces will participate in the 1984 national elections. In so doing, they rejected the possibility for the establishment of new political parties.

The military officers, whose identity has not been disclosed, informed local press sources that the election will be limited to the Blanco and Colorado (the traditional political parties) and the Civic Union which with the Armed Forces Political Affairs Commission (COMASPO) have been drafting the political party statute that will be put in force in the next few months.

Col Nestor Bolentini, a member of the Council of State (Legislative), has recently expressed the need for creating a new political party which, according to political observers, will help the present president, Lt Gen (ret) Gregorio Alvarez, who was appointed by the Armed Forces Officers Board, to gain the presidency through elections.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON NUMBER OF POLITICAL PARTIES

PY111806 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Excerpt] It has been learned that the number of political parties that will participate in the forthcoming elections will depend on the people. This was explained a few minutes ago to El Espectador by Interior Minister Yamandu Trinidad. The interior minister also called on the people to remain calm during this period of transition in order to continue with the institutionalization of the country.

This information was provided by our mobil unit. Asked about the number of political parties that will participate in the 1984 elections, Yamandu Trinidad said that the number of parties does not depend on government officials but on the people who will register the parties in accordance with the regulations of the law on political parties being prepared by the Armed Forces Political Affairs Commission -- COMASPO.

PRESIDENT ALVAREZ ADDRESSES FARMERS MEETING

PY151623 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 9 Dec 81 p 1

[Text] Lt Gen (ret) Gregorio Alvarez said yesterday in the city of Dolores that "it is said that the difference between politicians and statesmen lies in the fact that politicians think of future elections, and statesmen of future generations. We prefer, within the modesty of our resources, to work as statesmen, thinking of the future generations, of our children, of Uruguay's children."

The president delivered his speech at a luncheon hosted by the authorities of the local farming cooperative. On this occasion, Alvarez referred to the importance of Dolores and of its surrounding districts in wheat production. He pointed out that the country's farmers will always be looked on well and he added that "we are ready now to hold an open and broad dialogue for Uruguay's benefit." Further on he stated that "we do not want to encourage any hopes, for it is not our government's aim to win votes."

Before President Alvarez delivered the above speech, leaders of the Dolores farming cooperative handed over to him a memorandum in which, according to what was learned, they reported all the problems that distress the wheat-producing sector.

OFFICIAL REPORTS $50 MILLION IN FALL RESERVES

PY091959 Paris AFP in Spanish 1151 GMT 9 Dec 81

[Text] Salto, Uruguay, 9 Dec (AFP) -- Uruguayan Central Bank President Jose Gil Diaz reported here today that in 1981 Uruguay experienced a loss of $50 million in its reserves while it registered practically no economic growth. He noted, however, that these facts do not mean that the economic apparatus has been destroyed.

In a statement issued yesterday during the inauguration ceremony of the 12th turbine at the Salto Grande hydroelectric binational complex, Gil Diaz said that after 20 years of stagnation, Uruguay registered a 4-percent growth rate in its GNP between 1974 and 1980. He noted that countries cannot always register high growth rates and alluded that the zero economic growth in 1981 was caused by both domestic and international factors. He also reported that there has been a $50 million decrease in national reserves and that this was related to the fall in the price of gold. He reported that if the ounce of gold stays at $410, Uruguayan reserves total $1.8 billion.

SECRET PLOT TO KILL AREA LEADERS REPORTED

PA150446 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0024 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] Panama City, 14 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, secretary general of the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD), disclosed to ACAN-EFE today a secret plan to assassinate various Latin American leaders, including Ecuadorean President Jamie Roldos and Panamanian Gen Omar Torrijos.

Jaime Roldos was killed in an airplane crash in his country on 24 May 1981.

General Torrijos, leader of the Panamanian revolutionary process and commander in chief of the Panamanian National Guard, was killed on 31 July, when his airplane crashed in the mountainous central region of this country.

The official reports on the incidents assured, in both cases, that the tragedies were accifental and not purposeful.

When Pena Gomez attended the funderal for General Torrijos, he told ACAN-EFE that he dismissed the idea that there had been an attempt against the life of the Panamanian leader.

According to the PRD leader, the list of Latin American politicians to be assassinated includes former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez and Pena Gomez himself, in addition to a Mexican leader whose name he withheld.

Pena Gomez said the he was advised of the plan by sources in different countries that he declined to identify, adding that the list of assassinations was prepared in Februrary 1981.

He concluded by saying that the authors of the plan are a group in power that is not ideological, but he refused to given any more details.

Pena Gomez is attended a meeting in Panama to draft a report on the situation in Central America.

PRESS OFFICIAL ALLEGES PLAN TO DISCREDIT PANAMA

PA142137 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1803 GMT 14 Dec 81

[Text] Panama City, 14 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Lorenzo Sanchez Galan, information secretary of the presidency of the republic said today that there is a plan to accuse Panama of being a participant in the alleged arms traffic to subversive groups in neighboring countries.

In a press conference, Sanchez Galan said that he had no proof, but that there are "indications" that the reports seeking to involve Panama in this alleged traffic are coming from interested political groups and from the Panama City office of the Bogota newspaper EL TIEMPO.

Indalecio Rodriguez, who is in charge of the EL TIEMPO office in Panama, rejected the charges. Rodriguez said that if there is any evidence, it should be presented and he opened his filed for any investigation.

Sanchez Galan said that Panama has nothing to do with any clandestine arms trafficking and denied a report by a European news agency datelined Castries, St Lucia. According to that report, a U.S. State Department spokesman had said that Panama is an "international center for arms for the Salvadoran guerrillas, unbeknown to the Panamanian Government, but with the complicity of Cuba and Nicaragua."

Sanchez Galan showed the reporters a telegram sent by the Panamanian ambassador in Washington, Juan Jose Amado, stating that Stephen Bosworth, assistant secretary of state for Latin American affairs, denied that any State Department official had made that statement to the European news agency.

Sanchez Galan also said that President Royo had contacted the U.S. ambassador to Panama, Ambler Moss. According to Sanchez Galan, Ambassador Moss said that the press dispatch from Castries was unfounded.

VENEZUELA'S CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ COMMENTS ON REGION

PA121640 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2245 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Statements made in Panama City by former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] Felipe Gonzalez [secretary general of the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party] and I are here today -- I having come from Caracas, and Felipe having come from Spain -- to review the Central American situation. We have come in line with our continuing interest in achieving a clarification of the situation that exists in Nicaragua and a clear, effective and efficient definition of the plan for pluralism in that country; and to contribute to a search for a political solution in El Salvador.

The elections planned for March in El Salvador while a civil war is going on are an absolute hoax. It is necessary to establish a climate, a process of understanding that will in turn give way to an electoral process that will open a democratic path to the long-suffering, martyred Salvadoran fatherland.

Moreover, we have to look at the Central American problem as a whole. We now feel anxiety regarding what could happen in Honduras. We have viewed with satisfaction the conduct of the Honduran Armed Forces, which promoted and made possible an electoral process that gave the victory to the Liberal Party, the progressive party in Honduras, and that gave the country a legitimate president, Mr Suazo Cordoba, the president-elect of that country.

However, anything that could take place in Honduras would be within the Central American context. That is why we must attain peace. We have to win peace, not win a war.

In addition, we have the frightful situation in Guatemala, where there is an incipient crisis that could be even more serious than the one being experienced by the Salvadoran people.

Panama and Costa Rica must consider themselves affected by this situation and must be concerned about it. We Venezuelans, and all Latin Americans, must realize that the destiny of Latin America is at stake here. Any intervention and the supply of weapons, no matter where they come from -- the USSR, Cuba or the United States -- would be malignant, because they all help to stimulate war and violence in the region. This is the reason for our anxiety and this is what we are doing. There is no other reason for our trip to Central America.

NICARAGUA'S ROBELO MEETS LATIN AMERICAN LEADERS

PA160301 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] Alfonso Robelo Callejas delayed his return to Nicaragua because he is meeting with political leaders in Panama, it was reported here today.

Reports revealed that Robelo (?met with) President Aristides Royo of Panama, Carlos Andres Perez and other leaders. It was also said that Costa Rican presidential candidate Luis Alberto Monge of the National Liberation Party had also been present.

It is said that Felipe Gonzalez met with President Royo in Panama and with Alfonso Robelo in Spain. The Nicaraguan Democratic Movement chairman will arrive in Managua a day before the meeting of democratic leaders in [words indistinct] in Managua.

GOVERNMENT MINISTER, RADIO BROADCASTERS MEET

PA1O1605 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2245 GMT 9 Dec 81

[Text] Government and Justice Minister Jorge Eduardo Ritter today denied that the government has any interest in transferring the country's radio stations into a network. Ritter also promised to completely review radio broadcasting regulations.

Ritter met this morning with leaders of the Panamanian Association of Radio Broadcasters [APR] headed by Fernando Eleta Casanova. The radio owners told Ritter that they are afraid the state will try to enforce a condition that appeared in recent resolutions authorizing frequencies. Under this condition, the licensee must rebroadcast newscasts carried by Radio Nacional, which is run by the state.

Ritter assured the radio broadcasters that this provision will not be applied and that it could be eliminated after pertinent consultations.

At the end of the meeting, the minister made the following statement:

[Begin recording] In the first place, I must note that the talks with the APR members were characterized by their normal pattern of open-mindedness and honesty. This has always made consultation and dialogue between the Government Ministry and the APR easier.

The reports which appeared today that the Government and Justice Ministry is introducing new requirements to grant frequencies have been duly denied. These uncertainties were clarified because these provisions have appeared in the resolutions granting frequencies since 1974. However, this is a provision that has never been applied and there is no intention to apply it.

Therefore, for the tranquillity of the radio broadcasters, more than for the real threat that this could be applied, this provision will not appear again in resolutions granting radio frequencies. [end recording]

Asked about speculation regarding the status of radio commentators whose licenses have been suspended and rumors that their restrictions will soon be lifted, he said:

[Begin recording] We cannot issue the pardon from here. This was an administrative decision, since they violated certain regulations which apply to radio broadcasting. However, although the case has not been formally reconsidered, speculation is always spreading -- the result of [words indistinct] licenses. Of course, as soon as the measure is to be considered, we will announce this and let the press know. This would also serve as another reason for dialogue between the Government Ministry and the APR radio commentators, in order to reiterate our willingness to continue this climate of freedom without any restriction on freedom of speech.

However, I can't tell you at this time that formal reconsideration of the case of the four radio commentators is imminent. [end recording]

APR President Eleta Casanova referred to the meeting with the government minister as follows:

[Begin recording] We are very pleased with this morning's meeting. The minister confirmed the open dialogue that has always existed between the APR and the Government Ministry authorities. We cleared up a problem which we believed was new but was old, which is that of the radio frequencies. For the benefit of the people, radio frequencies are granted every 30 years. Many stations already had their frequencies updated and had not needed to renew them since 1974. Therefore, they had not received these conditions, which seemed new but which had been in effect since that year.

After we agreed that the country's conditions have changed since then, the minister promised, as he said, to establish new rules on the granting of radio frequencies within the present laws.

We are very pleased with this meeting and can tell old and new broadcasters that these regulations do not apply and that we do not have any problems in the granting and operation of radio frequencies as we had thought. [end recording]

NATIONAL GUARD MAY PURCHASE SPANISH AIRCRAFT

PA140236 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Dec 81 p 1-A

[Excerpts] A diplomatic source has told LA PRENSA that the National Guard High Command is negotiating with the Spanish state enterprise National Industry Institute for the purchase of a fleet of modern Casa planes, at a cost of several million dollars, to be financed by the Banco Exterior.

The source added that the interesting part of this kind of plane, which is completely Spanish in design and manufacture, is its versatility, since it can be adapted to both civilian and military aviation and can, therefore, transport persons, animals and all kinds of equipment.

Attempts to obtain a statement from the National Guard command have been fruitless and it has therefore been impossible to determine how the planes will be used.

Meanwhile, the Spanish Embassy in Panama has expressed amazement over the news, while Juan Ramon Jouve, manager of the Banco Exterior, refrained from commeting on the matter.

An official at the diplomatic mission said that "if the report is true it should not sound strange, since both the United States and Latin American countries are purchasing these planes, including Costa Rica, whose government has purchased three or four."

EL SALVADOR

EHRLICH COMMENTS ON EUROPEAN TRIP, ELECTIONS

PA161609 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Statements by Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich, vice president of the Salvadoran revolutionary government junta and president of the Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transformation, on his return from Europe -- live]

[Summary] "Foreign Minister Chavez and I went on a private visit to several countries in Europe, including the Netherlands, Belgium, the FRG, Great Britain and Spain. We talked to politicians, government officials, representatives of people's organizations and members of the news media."

The main objective of our trip was to tell the European people about the real situation in El Salvador. We told them what we are doing and what is happening in El Salvador.

We explained the junta's political plan, the reform process, the citizens' political rights and the electoral process. "We also told them that it was the government's intention to have observers from various governments and organization to vouch for the conditions existing during the electoral process and the elections."

We not only conveyed our ideas, but listened to the views of other countries, governments and groups. "In general, I would say that Europeans are beginning to understand the Salvadoran problem." We are no longer bad news; we aren't making the headlines anymore. "I firmly believe that after our trip things will begin to look better for our country."

Misinformation has contributed to the absurd idea that people have about what is happening in our country. "But things are changing. There is more understanding, more clarity and much more support." The people and heads of state have closely followed the Salvadoran process and they consider the electoral process an important factor for stronger support for the Salvadoran political process and the country in general. It is very clear to Europeans that the Salvadoran elections are a great opportunity to tell the world that the Salvadorans want peace, freedom and democracy. This is in effect the main objective of the March elections. The people will go to the polls to choose a constituent assembly so that we can join the world of free and democratic nations. "By going to the polls in March, the Salvadorans will tell the world: We want democracy, we want to solve our own problems, we want peace. The people will say to armed groups, whoever they are: We do not want any more bloodshed. We want to live in peace so that we can build a society that is more harmonious and just." This is the reason for the elections and this is what peoples from other countries expect.

Salvadorans have to be sure of what they want. They cannot act selfishly, or try to take advantage of others. Everybody should have the right to express their will.

I think that the attitude of some political parties regarding the new electoral law deserves more thought. The matter should be discussed a little more.

"We say that the Salvadorans must go to the polls and vote in large number and we have told other governments and groups that we want observers in El Salvador. We want as many observers as possible so that the world can have testimony to the fact that we have an electoral process, a government and armed forces promoting elections that are absolutely honest and free."

It is necessary for the people to vote in large numbers in order that these elections can open the doors to free nations. If only 20 percent of the voting population goes to the polls, we cannot expect any support. We definitely need a higher percentage. First we have to start with an electoral law. There are people who left their municipalities because of the violence which has existed in the northern areas of the country and in some parts of the east. These people went elsewhere. It would be illogical for us to tell them that in March they have to return to their municipalities, to vote there, after leaving everything that has happened to them. Transportation to some of those municipalities is poor. This would seriously affect the voting. "On the other hand, we need to make it possible for each Salvadoran citizen to vote at the nearest polling place in the municipality where he currently lives." Some might argue that this can cause distrust. I want every Salvadoran to be clear in this respect. The government firmly believes in free elections. This responsibility has been assumed by the government and the armed forces, nationally and internationally. We have given full power to the Central Electoral Council and we have been all over the world reiterating that we are going to have absolutely free elections. The government and the armed forces are going to be impartial. We have even asked for international observers. The OAS and European organizations are willing to send observers because we are going to see that elections are honest. "We are willing to have the world witness the freedom during the electoral process."

Some are using all manner of excuses not to accept our invitation. Some fear that the guerrillas will attack them if they are candidates. "If, despite all these threats, the people go to the polls, the world and we must support and respect the will of the people. We are not so much concerned whether or not we win some seats in the assembly. What is important is saving the country. Who is going to save it? The people." It is hard to obtain a political solution without the people's participation. This is what we have to strive for. Everyone has to contribute: You, I, everyone, the organizations, political parties and the government. "We must implement measures to guarantee the seriousness of the elections. Under no circumstance can we permit a fraud. We have struggled all our life for free elections and we believe that the other parties realize that this is what the people want." This is the time to have confidence. "We must all get together to have the people express their will and face all ideas, ideologies and wait for the people to decide which one they are going to support." This government's will is to guarantee the people's will and give them the maximum facilities so that they can freely express themselves at the polls. Curfew has been lifted and "the state of siege is not applied to political parties." An amnesty decree has been issued for those who wish to accept it. We have an electoral law which has been drafted with the approval of almost all political parties and apart from one or two issues on which the government and the opposition do not agree, the rest is acceptable to all sectors involved. We cannot expect to have perfect conditions.

Finally, I wish to refer to two issues from the OAS meeting. First, its resolution represents a definite victory for democracy. In other words, the majority of Latin American countries supports the process of democratization and elections. I told Foreign Minister Chavez that this commits us even more to offering and supporting honest elections. The other point to which I wish to refer concerns the participation of our foreign minister Fidel Chavez Mena. Every Salvadoran should be proud of this. The work he has done from country to country and at every international level to increase our prestige is praiseworthy. He not only made peace possible with Honduras but now he has exerted every effort to bring peace and democratization in the country. I feel we all owe him our gratitude.

"The elections are the great opportunity of the Salvadorans to prove to the world that we want freedom, peace, and a program to develop into a just society."

MANAGUA QUOTES VENCEREMOS ON MILITARY OFFENSIVE

PA161355 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] San Salvador -- Jorge Melendez, commander of the guerrillas' eastern front, stated over Radio Venceremos, which has resumed broadcasts, that the junta's new offensive in Morazan is condemed to failure, while he reported on the most recent successful operations of the revolutionaries against the government forces.

SUBVERSIVE ATTACKS, UNIDENTIFIED FLIGHTS REPORTED

PA162023 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 15 Dec 81 pp 2, 58

[Excerpts] According to a military report, extremist groups have carried out surprise harassment operations in the cities of San Miguel, Usulutan, Chalatenango, Tenancingo and some 10 rural areas throughout the country.

The same report indicates that several people not connected with the violence have been killed in some cases and that terrorists have died in clashes with troops.

All harassment actions have been successfully repelled by troops and security corps personnel with help from civil defense teams.

A large group of extremists who were calmly having lunch in two houses in San Matias Canton were put to flight by a military patrol. The terrorists left all of their cooking utensils, rifles, cartridges, clips and clothes when they fled, an official report said. San Matias is a rural area in Sensuntepeque, Morazan Department.

Heavily armed subversives in olive drab entered San Antonio farm, in the jurisdiction of San Vicente, and killed a weigher a foreman, a woman and a child, and fled when they realized that a military patrol was approaching.

C-47 planes, presumably from Nicaragua, have continued flying over northern Morazan Department, according to people who have repeatedly complained about the flights because they fear surprise attacks may be carried out against the country's cities or important installations. The armed forces are investigating the reports, it was indicated.

According to reports from Cojutepeque, unidentified terrorists attacked a civil defense team but the attack was repelled and the extremists fled.

Yesterday, a huge column of terrorists was seen heading toward the Honduran border. Eyewitnesses told the authorities that they had cattle, horses, large bundles of clothes, foodstuffs and so forth. This was near Iramon Hill, on the road to La Canada. Two women of the terrorist column gave birth to babies and it had to stop. Red Cross personnel were waiting for the column inside Honduran territory to help the sick, the wounded and the women who had delivered the babies, according to authorities in Arcatao, Chalatenango Department.

At the landing strip in Belen Canton, jurisdiction of Conchagua, a light plane had an accident because it was short of fuel and extremists who passed by the area at midnight attacked it with gunfire. The plane is owned by the firm, Alas, S.A. of Ilopango.

A CEL (Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission) substation installed at the cotton cooperative was attacked by extremists and the city of San Miguel was left without power as a result.

NEW CLEANUP OPERATION LAUNCHED IN CHALATENANGO

PA170022 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1735 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] San Salvador, 16 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Official sources reported that 70 percent of San Salvador was without electric power for 11 hours. The eastern sector of the country remained in darkness today.

According to the same sources, the interruption of electricity in San Salvador and in the eastern sector was caused by the sabotage and destruction of high-tension towers in the areas of San Esteban Catarina and San Felipe in San Vicenter Department, some 70 km east of San Salvador.

Electric plants and towers were also destroyed and sabotaged in San Martin Apopa and Nejapa towns located to the north of San Salvador.

For their part, the Salvadoran Armed Forces today launced a military operation in Chalatenango Department. Their objective is to evict the guerrillas who have camped in this area for several months.

The army has repeatedly carried out cleanup operations against the leftists in Chalatenango, 92 km north of San Salvador. This department has been one of the hardest hit by the rebel activities.

Meanwhile, in the eastern department of Morazan, fighting between the army and the guerrillas continued today after 11 days of military operations.

It was unofficially reported that some 50 guerrillas have been killed during this operation.

GUATEMALA

CONGRESS URGES END TO DIVISIVE VIOLENCE

PA162113 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] In a communique to the Guatemalan people and the world the Guatemalan Legislative Assembly today issued an appeal to all free congressmen of the world. The assembly asked them to analyze the distressing situation in Guatemala, without tipping the scales in either direction, and to form a common front to maintain our democratic and representative political systems.

The communique expresses solidarity with the Guatemalan people at this time of trials and tribulations, trusting that the violence can be brought to an end so that we can get back on the right road, aided by good actions and respect for the Lord and our brothers.

The congressional communique expresses support for the Guatemalan Government's decisions to try to put an end to the fratricidal struggle and any steps taken to maintain the de jure regime. It also tells the Guatemalan Army and police that it understands the efforts they are making to maintain peace and security at the cost of useful lives.

It also issues an appeal, which it terms open, frank and sincere, to those who are subverting peace and order in the country. It asks them to stop the bloodbath in Guatemala in the name of prudence, Christian love, and respect for the Lord and their brothers.

The congressmen say that they hope that the subversives will heed this call to their consciences so that we will be able to leave behind this past which has been devoid of virtue and good actions.

The communique asks the foreign terrorists to leave Guatemala. Further, it asks the free congressman of America and the world to calmly analyze the current situation in Guatemala.

UNIDENTIFIED GUERRILLAS ATTACK POLICE STATION

PA152321 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] The IV National Police Corps was attacked at approximately 0000 GMT. An officer identified as (Crisando Aguirre), 31, was killed. Another officer identified as (Gregorio Olmedo Davila) was wounded. Our reporters state that a civilian named (Jorge Luis de Leon Flores) was also wounded. The attackers abandoned several cars and fled.

The IV Corps policemen returned the fire and a shootout lasting a few minutes ensued. Preliminaty statements show that the presumed guerrillas were in unidentified pickup trucks. They used a machinegun. Further, a bomb, which presumably was to be used in the same action, exploded inside one of the vehicles.

NICARAGUA

FOREIGN MINISTER D'ESCOTO CONCLUDES VISIT TO USSR

For Soviet and Nicaraguan reportage on Foreign Minister d'Escoto's visit to the Soviet Union see the Latin American & Caribbean section of the 16 December Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

ECLN CALLS FOR CREATION OF DEMOCRATIC COALITION

PA161743 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2344 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] San Jose, 15 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- The top leadership of the Christian Army of Liberation of Nicaragua [ECLN] today in this capital called for the creation of a Nicaraguan democratic coalition [coalition democratic nicaraguense] with representatives of all the groups fighting against communism in its country.

The ECLN's top leadership was established to include Commanders Lucas, Denis, Mateo and Andres, whose real names were withheld for obvious reasons.

The new board of directors sent ACAN-EFE a copy of its first public statement which condemns "Russian intervention in Nicaragua." According to the statement, this intervention was recently reiterated by the Soviet ambassador in Managua "in his declaration of support for the FSLN."

Lucas, Denis, Mateo and Andres voice their hope that the statment of the Soviet diplomat "will clear the doubt some people had regarding communist penetration in Central America and the true threat this represents for all of America."

In order to begin to shape the anticommunist coalition, the ECLN offers "its forces, both inside Nicaragua and abroad, which are ready to join the other groups desiring to join efforts in this struggle."

REBELS REPORTEDLY KILL, WOUND SANDINISTS

PA170406 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1551 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] Managua, 16 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- It was reported today in this capital city that counterrevolutionaries, posing as Cubans, tortured and murdered a member of a Sandinist brigade who was working on the control and ereadication of malaria in the northern area of the country.

Another brigade member, who was able to escape, was also tortured and wounded. It is believed that a third Sandinist was kidnapped and is being held by the counterrevolutionaries.

This occurred yesterday in the community of Zinica.